

# **Catawba County Emergency Medical Services Standard Operating Guidelines**

## Uniform Code

- Types of uniforms:
  - Standard Uniforms
    - Will consist of Navy pants, gray shirt, black boots, black belts, and hat.
    - Hats will be those supplied by Catawba County EMS or those that have been approved by the EMS Manager.
    - Administrative personnel will be assigned white shirts and accessories.
    - Any item not specifically mentioned in this uniform code is not deemed to be part of the uniform and shall not be worn.
    - An extra uniform, (in case of exposure / contamination), must be maintained by the employee at their assigned base.
    - If undershirts are worn they will be plain gray or white and have no marking, pictures, etc...
  - Bike Team Uniforms
    - Navy Shorts with a High Visibility Shirt
    - During inclement weather the EMS Manager may approve the use of navy pants and / or navy wind suit pants along with a high visibility shirt
  - Public Relations and other special events uniforms
    - EMS Pants with a Grey Shirt
- Hair must be worn in a fashion not to interfere with patient care. All facial hair must be kept in a manner so as not to interfere with the proper fit of the HEPA respirator. (i.e., facial hair can not be present where the mask seal contacts the face)
- Personnel may wear one pin indicating certification or achievement on the uniform. Such pin shall not exceed two inches in any dimension.
- The uniform is NOT to be worn when off-duty unless engaged in activity directly related to the service and approved in advance by the director except when traveling to and from work.
- The Shift Supervisor assigned to uniform operations shall be responsible for seeing that all County equipment is returned by a separated employee. Any missing items shall be reported to the manager.
- During periods of inclement or extreme weather, certain deviations from the standard uniform may be made when approved by the Shift Supervisor, Crew Chiefs, Training Officer, or Manager.
- Provided personal protective equipment (turnout gear) will be worn on all Motor Vehicle Accidents and hazardous materials incidents where employees and volunteers are involved in extrication

activities or may come into contact with broken glass or metal.. Safety vest will be worn while working in or around roadways.

➤ Body Piercing

- Earrings are allowed if they are of single stud-type and only one pair may be worn.
  - Nose rings are not permitted due to possible interference with HEPA respirators.
  - Due to the possibility of becoming dislodged during the performance of strenuous activity and subsequently causing a potential airway obstruction tongue rings are not allowed.
- A shift supervisor will be assigned to the supply of uniforms. Requests for any and all uniform parts will be forwarded to this Shift Supervisor through the employee's Crew Chief. Crew Chief's will forward their uniform requests through their own Shift Supervisor to the designate uniform Supervisor.

4/7/06 – BDB